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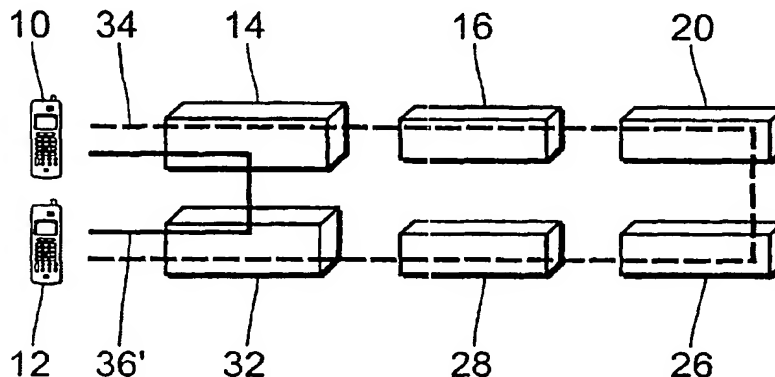
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(54) Title: ROUTING METHOD AND NETWORK ELEMENT



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to a method and network system for direct routing of the user plane of a call between two (10; 12) network terminals attached to a first and a second access network (14; 32), respectively. After establishing the call, the transmission path for user data (36') is changed such that it only comprises the access networks. Relocation between access network elements for such a Direct Routed call is disclosed. The methods described are applicable for circuit-switched as well as packet-switched connection types and especially effective for all IP network situations. Furthermore, the invention relates to a network element, such as a Radio Network Controller (16; 28), adapted to operation according to the method mentioned above.

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Abstract

The present invention relates to a method and network system for direct routing of the user plane of a call between two network terminals attached to a first and a second access network, respectively. After establishing the call, the transmission
5 path for user data is changed such that it only comprises the access networks. Relocation between access network elements for such a Direct Routed call is disclosed. The methods described are applicable for circuit-switched as well as packet-switched connection types and especially effective for all IP network situations. Furthermore, the invention relates to a network element, such as a Radio
10 Network Controller, adapted to operation according to the method mentioned above.

[Fig. 1b]